

AN ACT

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RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES; ENACTING A DESCRIPTION OF AND
REQUIREMENTS FOR A STANDARDIZED SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE;
PROVIDING FOR A STANDARDIZED SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATE WITH A LOGO
FOR NEW MEXICO MEMBERS OF THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code, Section 66-3-424 NMSA
1978, is enacted to read:

"66-3-424. STANDARDIZED SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES WITH
LOGOS.--

A. Standardized special registration plates with logos may be
authorized by statute to show state support for worthy public purposes. The
authorizing statute shall provide for collection of fees that, at a minimum, will cover the
costs to the division of development, manufacture and issuance of the special
registration plates and logos.

B. Standardized special registration plates, on the standardized areas,
shall:

(1) display the colors of the state flag, red lettering on a yellow
background;

(2) display the phrases "New Mexico USA" and "Land of
Enchantment";

(3) provide a space for applying the special registration logo,
centered at the left edge of the plate, between the attachment holes, beginning one-

fourth inch in from the edge of the plate and having the following dimensions: four and one-eighth inches in height and three and one-eighth inches in width; and

(4) provide a vehicle registration number, to be assigned by the division, that consists of five alphanumeric characters displayed to the right of the special logo area.

C. Special registration logos, except for the standard dimension specified in Paragraph (3) of Subsection B of this section, shall be left to the design discretion of the division, in consultation with the public purpose interest group that requests the special registration plate.

D. Standardized special registration plates with logos, when authorized by statute for a particular public purpose interest group, shall meet the requirements specified in this subsection prior to plate issuance by the division. The public purpose interest group, no later than the effective date of the authorizing statute:

(1) shall provide evidence acceptable to the division that it will generate a minimum number of prepaid applications as determined by the division for the special registration plate with logo;

(2) shall provide a prepayment to the division in an amount sufficient to cover the plate and logo cost of the initial order;

(3) shall provide a sample of the requested artwork design in a format specified by the plate manufacturer for the specialized logo; and

(4) in cases where the authorizing statute includes revenue-sharing with distribution directed to a particular group or fund, shall show that the recipient is a governmental entity or a fund authorized for the use of a governmental entity.

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E. The division may promulgate rules for implementation of the provisions of this section."

Section 2. A new section of the Motor Vehicle Code, Section 66-3-424.1 NMSA 1978, is enacted to read:

“66-3-424.1. SPECIAL REGISTRATION PLATES FOR NEW MEXICO MEMBERS OF THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE.--

A. The department shall issue a standardized special registration plate with a logo specified in Section 66-3-424 NMSA 1978 indicating that the recipient is a New Mexico member of the fraternal order of police.

B. No person shall represent himself to be a New Mexico member of the fraternal order of police if he is, in fact, not a New Mexico member of the fraternal order of police. The secretary shall determine what constitutes satisfactory proof.

C. A person who violates the provisions of Subsection B of this section is guilty of a petty misdemeanor and shall be sentenced pursuant to Section 31-19-1 NMSA 1978.

D. A fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), which shall be in addition to the regular motor vehicle registration fee, shall be collected by the department for the original issuance of the special registration plate for a New Mexico member of the fraternal order of police.

E. Ten dollars (\$10.00) of the fee collected pursuant to Subsection D of this section shall be retained by the department and is appropriated to the department to defray the cost of making and issuing a special registration plate for a New Mexico member of the fraternal order of police.

F. The amount of the fee collected pursuant to this section less any

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amount distributed pursuant to Subsection E of this section shall be deposited in the motor vehicle suspense fund for distribution in accordance with Section 66-6-23 NMSA 1978.

G. The secretary shall approve the final logo design for the special registration plates for New Mexico members of the fraternal order of police.

H. When a person holding a special plate ceases to be a New Mexico member of the fraternal order of police, he shall immediately remove the plate from the vehicle and return it to the secretary, at which time it shall be exchanged for a regular registration plate."

Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--Except for Section 1 of this act, the effective date of the provisions of this act is January 1, 2004. The effective date of the provisions of Section 1 of this act is July 1, 2003.

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